

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for thorough examination of the present application as evidenced in the non-final Office action dated January 22, 2009. The present Amendment and Response is responsive to the non-final Office action dated January 22, 2009. Claims 1-14 remain pending with claims 1, 5, 7, 10 and 11 being amended and claim 2 being canceled. Claims 1-14 have been described below in the section entitled "Objections to the Claims," "Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102," and "Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103."

Claim Objections

The Office action objects to the use of the acronyms "MGCP" and "SIP", and recommends that each must be spelled out at least once in the claim. By the present amendment, claims 5 and 10 have been amended and such acronyms have been replaced with the full name. In particular, the detailed amendments in the claims are as follows:

- Change "MGCP" in claim 5 to "Media Gateway Control Protocol;"
- Change "SIP" in claims 7 and 10 to "Session Initiation Protocol."

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Christie et al. (US 6,002,689). Since Christie does not disclose or suggest each and every element of the Applicants' claimed invention, the claims are patentably distinguishable from the cited reference.

Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1 and 11 conform to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

As for claim 1:

a. Christie discloses networks, such as B-ISDN, SONET, SDH, and ATM. See Christie, col. 7, lines 59 to col. 8, lines 50. However, Christie does not disclose that these networks are heterogeneous. Furthermore, Christie discloses [a] system to interworking a call between a

plurality of networks having different formats. However, networks having different formats are not necessarily heterogeneous networks, as recited in claim 1. Therefore, Christie's fails to disclose "interworking...between two broadband heterogeneous networks," as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner disagrees with the Applicants' statements in this Office action on the grounds that the claims of this invention does not define the distinguishing technical feature "broadband heterogeneous networks which have various different address planning and different network structure" as claimed by the Applicants. The basis for the Applicants' statements is not present in the claims.

In response, the Applicants amended claim 1 according to the description, adding "broadband heterogeneous networks which have various different address planning and different network structure" into claim 1. As stated above, "networks which have various different address planning and different network structures" in the claims of present invention is not analogous to "networks having different formats" in Christie. The "networks having various different address planning and different network structure" in the claims of the present invention may be networks having the same format, such as IP network, aiming at solving the interworking between networks having various different address planning and different network structure, rather than interworking between networks having different formats. Relatively, networks having different formats in Christie only relate to networks different in network format (such as ATM, TDM and ISDN), rather than networks having various different address planning and different network structure. Therefore, Christie does not disclose said content, and the amended claim 1 is in conformity with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

b. Additionally, claim 1 further defines "creating a media port that corresponds to the caller party equipment and a media port that corresponds to the called party equipment and establishing a mapping between the two media ports within the media interworking equipment."

The Examiner pointed that said content is disclosed in Christie (col. 11, line 66 – col. 12, line 67) "connection from local TDM device to ATM device, i.e., mapping between TDM and ATM ports; user communication device transmitting user communications in an ESF or SF format, other TDM formats over DS level transmission lines, i.e., ports, or SONET or SDH, an ISDN format or a GR-303 format; converter interworking between signaling formats or user communication formats," wherein "local TDM device" in Christie is analogous to "caller party

equipment” in the claims of this invention, and “ATM device” in Christie is analogous to “called party equipment” in the claims.

However, the part of Christie cited by the Examiner does not disclose “creating a media port” and certainly does not disclose “creating a media port that corresponds to the caller party equipment and a media port that corresponds to the called party equipment” and “establishing a mapping between the two media ports within the media interworking equipment.” Additionally, in other parts of Christie, said content is not disclosed either. Therefore, the amended claim 1 is in conformity with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

In summary, Christie does not disclose all of the technical features of claim 1, and thus the amended claim 1 is in conformity with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

As for independent claim 11 and dependent claims 3 and 4:

Furthermore, independent claim 11 amended accordingly, although different in scope from claim 1, is allowable for at least reasons similar to those given for claim 1. Dependent claims 3 and 4 are allowable at least due to their dependence from independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 11, in an alternative rejection, and claims 5-10 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Modarressi et al. ("Control and Management in Next-Generation Networks: Challenges and Opportunities", IEEE Communications Magazine, October 2000; hereinafter Modarressi) in view of Sibille et al. (US Pub. 2004/0190531).

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Applicants respectfully submit the amended claims 1 and 11 conform to the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The factual inquiries set forth in Graham v. John Deere Co., 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

- 1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.*
- 2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.*
- 3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.*

4. *Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or non-obviousness.*

As for claim 1:

a. The amended independent claim 1 defines a method of "interworking ... between two broadband heterogeneous networks which have various different address planning and different network structures."

Accordingly, Modarressi discloses a method of interworking teleservice between two broadband heterogeneous networks (IP and ATM networks), and "IP and ATM networks have different formats." However, a network having different formats as indicated by Modarressi is not the same as the network having various different address planning and different network structure as disclosed in claim 1 of present invention which may be networks having the same format. Therefore, Modarressi does not disclose "interworking . . . between two broadband heterogeneous networks which have various different address planning and different network structures."

b. Additionally, independent claim 1 further defines "establishing a mapping between the two media ports within the media interworking equipment." As stated in this Office action, Modarressi does not disclose this technical feature.

However, the Examiner pointed out that Sibille discloses "a method for signaling a bearer connection of another protocol coupled to a telecommunications network. The telecommunications network employs a first protocol, which in the exemplary embodiment is VoIP. The bearer connection employs a second protocol, such as VoATM." Particularly, "setting up two-way ATM-TDM interworking bearer path; translating SDP port into ATM port; mapping IP port in SDP media data to EECID ATM port; transmitting to bearer connection; Vertical Interface Translation Function in media gateway performing mapping and translating" is disclosed (Paragraphs 33, 34, 42-48, 55-57, 60-62 and 67).

After analysis, the Applicant submits that port mapping in Sibille is used for translating between the first signal of the first protocol and the second signal of the second protocol, and inserting the first signal into the second signal by the gateway, for the purpose of seamlessly transferring signals from one signaling protocol to another signaling protocol. However, the establishment of mapping two media ports in the media interworking equipment of claim 1 in

present invention is used for establishing connection between two media ports to transmit media streaming. The two features play obviously different functions in their respective technical scheme. Therefore, Sibille does not disclose “establishing a mapping between the two media ports within the media interworking equipment” as recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

c. Consequently, neither of Modarressi and Sibille discloses said technical feature of independent claim 1 in present invention, and the combination of Modarressi and Sibille can not solve the technical problem of interconnections between networks having various different address planning and different network structure due to the lack of said technical feature.

However, claim 1 of present invention discloses “establishing the mapping of two media ports for creating connection between the two media ports” and “networks having various different address planning and different network structure.” Additionally, the networks having various different address planning and different network structure may be networks having the same format, such as IP network, aiming at solving the interworking between the networks having various different address planning and different network structure rather than the interworking between networks having different formats. Therefore, a person skilled in the art to which said subject matter pertains can not obtain the technical teaching for claim 1 of present invention from the technical schemes of Modarressi and Sibille as well as the combination thereof.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the scope and content of the prior art has not been properly determined, and the differences between the prior art and claim 1 of present invention have not been properly ascertained. Accordingly, no reason has been clearly articulated as to why the prior art would have rendered claim 1 obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 1 of present invention.

As for independent claim 11 and dependent claims 5-10 and 12-14:

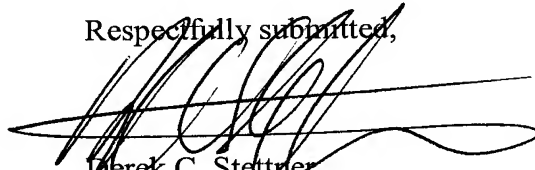
Furthermore, independent claim 11 amended accordingly, although different in scope from claim 1, is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. In addition, dependent claims 5-10 and 12-14 are allowable at least due to their dependence from allowable independent claims 1 and 11. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 5-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

The Applicants believe they have responded to each matter raised by the Examiner. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. It is believed that the present patent application, after the above amendments and statement of opinions, has overcome all the defects pointed out by the Examiner and is in conformity with the relevant provisions of Patent Law, so it should be granted patent rights. The Applicants expect early granting of patent right for this application. If there is still a problem that the Examiner believes is not overcome by the above amendments and statement of opinions, please give the Applicants another chance to make amendments and further clarification, explanation, or observation.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek C. Stettner', written over a horizontal line.

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